

SHOULD MRS. PLACE, CRIMINAL WOMAN,

Women Say There Is
No Sex in Crime.

Men Inclined to Be
Merciful to Her.

SUFFER THE DEATH PENALTY?



MRS. PLACE IN HER CELL IN SING SING.

A matron constantly watches her. Last night she constantly moaned and wept, seeming to realize her position. Her cell is the one occupied by Maria Barberi, who was also within the shadow of death through the electric chair.

SHE SHOULD BE PUT TO DEATH.

To the Editor of the Journal:

The death penalty should be carried out in the case of Mrs. Place. And why not? She has committed a terrible crime, she has had a fair trial and she has been convicted.

ASA BIRD GARDINER,
District Attorney.

THE sentence of death pronounced upon Mrs. Martha Place, of Brooklyn, who was convicted of the murder of her stepdaughter, has raised anew the question whether capital punishment should be inflicted upon a woman.

The shadow of the electric chair, it is declared, is thrice terrible when it impends over a woman, and this sentiment is more general in the community than would appear at first blush. Thousands of persons who laugh at the fanatics who would erase the death penalty from our statute books, will join forces with them in order to preserve womanhood, however degraded, from this awful doom. The death chair, they try, was never designed for woman, and shall never be occupied by her.

In order to test the strength of this sentiment the Journal has been at pains to secure opinions upon Mrs. Place's case from many prominent persons in various walks of life. While there is a striking difference in the views taken by the persons interviewed, it is, nevertheless, true that the preponderance of sentiment is against the infliction of the death penalty upon a woman. The women who discuss this subject are far less merciful than the men.

If Mrs. Place's conviction is affirmed by the Court of Appeals she must be the first woman to die in the electric chair, unless the Governor pardons her. And, in deciding her fate, the Governor will be largely influenced, no doubt, by the weight of public opinion on the case.

DOCTORS DIFFER ON DEATH OR RESPITE.

DR. ROGER C. TRACY, of the Board of Health—The general sentiment of the people of this country is against the infliction of the death penalty upon a woman.

I believe that the execution of the death sentence upon a woman has a demoralizing effect. There used to be an idea that if a murderer was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment and then pardoned after many years he was likely to commit murder again. I do not think there is an instance in this country where a pardoned murderer again took human life.

DR. E. C. SPITZKA, the expert on insanity—The trial was a long one, and it is to be assumed that Mrs. Place got the benefit of all the protection the law throws about a prisoner.

DR. RICHARD E. HURKE, No. 724 Lexington avenue—Women cannot be judged by the same standard as men, and I am against women being sent to the electric chair on capital principles. I think that isolation for life or a long term of years in the case of Mrs. Place would satisfy the demands of justice. If Governor Black disregards a petition

to commute capital punishment into imprisonment for life he will be the most unpopular man in the State.

DR. KANDALL, of the house staff of Bellevue Hospital—I do not believe there should be any distinction between women and men in murder cases. If Mrs. Place was guilty of murder in the first degree, she was as guilty as if she was a man, and should pay the same penalty.

DR. STONE, of the house staff of Bellevue Hospital—I think that if Mrs. Place is guilty of murder in the first degree her sex should not protect her.

DR. J. B. TUTTLE, No. 25 West Forty-eighth street—There is too much mistaken sentiment regarding the sending of women to the electric chair. If Mrs. Place committed the crime of murder in the first degree, she should suffer the extreme penalty of the law. A woman and a man are equally guilty. There is no sex in crime.

MRS. PLACE'S FIRST NIGHT IN SING SING.

Mrs. Martha Place's first night in Sing Sing prison was devoid of incident. Though restless, she gave her attendants little trouble.

Maria Barberi's old quarters on the top floor of the old hospital building have been fitted up for Mrs. Place's use and she spent the night there, with a matron, who kept careful watch upon her. Mrs. Place occasionally moaned and wept, but for the most part passed a comfortable night.

When Warden Sage and Dr. Irwin, the prison physician, called upon her yesterday morning, they found her nervous and inclined to be hysterical. Dr. Irwin will closely note Mrs. Place's condition, as it is supposed a commission will be appointed to determine her sanity.

Mrs. Place is under sentence to be executed by electric chair on August 29, but, as her case will be appealed, the death sentence will probably not be carried out at that time.

CRIME HAS NO SEX.
SAYS MRS. FOLTZ.

Mrs. Clara Foltz, the lawyer—I believe in strict obedience to the law, which knows no sex, except where political privileges are involved. Murder is murder, and it should be met with prompt and speedy punishment.

Crime has no sex. If we must kill the man to cure the disease of crime, why is it not necessary to kill the woman? If punishment is retributive justice for deeds done, then there can be no distinction. The victim is equally dead, whether by a man's pistol or a woman's fingers. If death by electricity is necessary to prevent men from committing murder the same penalty must be administered to women murderers. That principle of justice, and excusing a woman from punishment is an invitation to crime for others. The sentiment that punishes jurors to acquit a woman where they would convict a man, has no basis in law, is contrary to good policy, is a violation of their oath and has no place in the jury box. Unless laws bear equally on all classes, and are enforced against all classes, rich and poor, male and female, they become more mocked than feared.

THE WORST MAN IS NOT AS BAD AS SHE.

Mrs. Frank Leslie: "A woman who commits a man's crime should suffer a man's punishment. A woman when she commits such a crime is a thousand times worse than a man, for the better thing, the greater the fall; when an angel falls, he falls to a devil. If men should suffer the death penalty, women should not escape it. I recognize no sex in crime."

"If a sane man could commit such a crime as that of which Mrs. Place has been found guilty, it is perfectly possible for a sane woman to do it. More women's crimes

Doctors Doubt if
Mrs. Place Is
Sane.

Efficacy of Death
Penalty Ques-
tioned.

Some Call It Bar-
barous and De-
grading.

An Eminent Crimi-
nal Lawyer De-
nounces It.

Most Women
Say Mrs. Place
Should Die.

DEATH PENALTY NOT FOR WOMEN.

JOHN WHALEN, Corporation Counsel—I am not in favor of the infliction of the death penalty on any one. At the same time, if I were Public Prosecutor I should probably insist that the law take its course. It would be my duty to do so.

I do not believe that any woman will ever sit in the electric chair in the State of New York. It is doubtful whether even Mrs. Neck, had the murder of Guldenuppe been brought home to her directly, would have been killed by the public executioner. The sentiment of the State is against the execution of women for capital offenses.

Mrs. Place undoubtedly committed a fearful crime, and a jury found her guilty of murder in the first degree. Nevertheless, the probabilities are that, despite the magnitude of her offense and the condemnation of it, Mrs. Place will not be executed. Nature revolts against the execution of the extreme penalty upon women, and I am inclined to believe that this sentiment is founded in the best instincts of the human heart.

VAN COTT CALLS IT BARBARISM.

I am totally opposed to capital punishment.

In the case of a woman I regard the infliction of the death penalty as absolute barbarism. No one ever heard of a case where a woman committed murder upon pure deliberation. She is not to be judged by the standards which apply to men. When a woman commits murder she is bound to be unaccountable for her actions. But I will go even further than this and say that very few murderers are normal creatures. You or I may go out to night and kill a man on the impulse of passion and regret the act all the rest of our lives. I do not believe that men should pay with their lives for these impulsive acts. There should be some other way.

I have always thought that the final adjudication of such cases should reside in a Pardon Commission, and that the responsibility should not rest upon the Governor alone. It is an awful responsibility to rest on one man. In my opinion no woman will ever sit in the electric chair in the State of New York.—POSTMASTER CORNELIUS VAN COTT.

are hatched by the needle than by any other means. A woman rears her grievances into her mind with every stitch, familiarizing herself with them and magnifying them.

"If Mrs. Place can be proved insane, then any one can be proved insane. If the Mosaic law of an eye for an eye prevails and a man would be made to suffer the death penalty, under the same circumstances no mercy should be shown to Mrs. Place. In the contrary, she should be made to suffer to the full extent of the law, for the worst man could not be as bad as she."

Patchogue Grows Joyful.
A town meeting of the Patchogue Lyceum last evening, to do honor to the American army and navy for their victories over Spain, James Francis Lester, of Patchogue, was chairman of the Committee of Arrangements. The orators were Congressman Joseph M. Bedford, Thomas Root, James W. Coyne, and the Rev. C. N. Gleason. A vocal and instrumental program of music was given, and the Patchogue band played patriotic airs.

815 High Grade Serge Suits, \$4.95. This happens once a season at King's, corner Broadway and Park place. We have left 8 and 10 of a kind of certain high-priced blue, gray and brown serge suits, formerly sold at \$15, \$14 and \$12. They have all been hunched, and will be sold to-day at \$4.95. We have all sizes from 34 to 44, and you will get the biggest bargain of the year. About 350 suits to select from. Also, a great number of worsted pants, at \$3.50, that will stand comparison with the \$3.50 kind. King's, the great clothiers, corner Broadway and Park place.



MRS. PLACE IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH.

This portrait is the latest taken of the second woman who has been sentenced to die in the electric chair. The prospect of her execution for the murder of her step-daughter has aroused the keenest discussion as to the merits of inflicting the death punishment on a woman.

Death Penalty Barbarous.

To the Editor of the Journal:
I am opposed to capital punishment, and think it especially barbarous in the case of a woman.

LILLIE DEVEREUX BLAKE.

A WOMAN IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR? DEGRADING!

I do not believe that the death penalty should ever be imposed, and I am particularly averse to it in the case of a woman. It is a relic of barbarism and could only have a debasing effect upon the community. I have had a great deal of experience with the criminal classes, and particularly with women, and while I admit that they commit the most heinous of crimes, I have yet to find an instance in which I believed that the woman realized the serious nature of her crime at the time of its commission.

I believe the sex of the offender should be considered, especially in such a case as this. In regard to Mrs. Place I am sure a proper commission will yet decide that she is irresponsible.

EMMANUEL FRIEND.

ONLY YOUNG MEN ARE WAR HEROES.

They Have Reputations to
Make and Are Always
Ambitious.

The exploit of Lieutenant Hobson and the seven seamen who aided him to sink the Merrimac in the channel of Santiago harbor is attracting much attention in foreign countries. The deed has a flavor of the heroic ages. Such men as Hobson and Dewey are to us what Horatius was to the men of his day; what Curtius was to his fellow-citizens; what Leonidas was to his contemporaries; and it is far from improbable that ten or twelve centuries hence Hobson and Dewey may be to the literature of the English-speaking races what the early heroes of the city on the Tiber were to the conquerors of the world; what the Spartan King became to the millions who spoke his language.

Hobson deserves all the more credit from the fact that the idea was peculiarly his own. It was he who studied out the situation, investigated the conditions, and conceived the plan of effectually sealing the harbor by sinking the vessel at the narrowest point of the channel. Had he simply carried out the orders of a superior officer he would still be entitled to the credit of good work well done, but in that case he would simply be in the category of those hundreds of other sailors and soldiers who faithfully executed their orders. The daring of his design, however, the energy with which it was executed, and the success that attended it, all were contributing elements to confer upon him the fame he deserved, and the name of Hobson will hereafter be placed side by side with the names of other young Americans who have had the good fortune to win distinction at an age when little is expected of them save compliance with the suggestions and obedience to the orders of their superiors.

There are many instances in the military history of our own and other countries of men of distinction whose career began with some feat of daring closely analogous to that which won for Hobson promotion and reputation. The young Lieutenant who closed Santiago harbor will, if he lives,

some day be an Admiral in the American navy, and the record of the brilliant deeds of our seamen will tell how the career of the young naval constructor began with the daring act at Santiago. Hobson and his seven men were the heroes of the hour, and the Philadelphia in the harbor of Tripoli was in its way quite as daring as the sinking of the Merrimac. Whether the idea was that of Dewey or that of Commodore Preble, has never been clearly ascertained. It is even asserted that the scheme was not originated with either of them, but was contrived by Bainbridge, the Captain of the Philadelphia, who surrendered himself and his crew to the Tripolitans when he found that the ship was fast around and that there was apparently no prospect of floating the vessel. Bainbridge was then a prisoner in Tripoli, but was allowed some measure of liberty, and observing the position of the Philadelphia in the harbor and the carelessness of the Tripolitans, he contrived to escape, and suggested the possibility of the ship being burned if any one had the courage to make the attempt.

Dewey was then only twenty-five years of age, like Hobson, full of a desire for distinction. With a few companions as daring as himself, he made the effort, succeeded and thus began a brilliant career which was unfortunately cut short by the fatal duel with Commodore Barron. In the case of Hobson, as of Dewey, there did not appear to be more than one chance in a thousand to escape, even if the object proposed was attained. The Philadelphia was not the only man-of-war in the harbor of Tripoli. The Bay had numerous other vessels lying very close to the American ship, while the hasty adventurers, if they ran the gauntlet of these, would be compelled to pass directly under the guns of the forts which commanded the entrance to the harbor. Hobson's chance of escape was, apparently, even less than that of Dewey, for the distance from shore to shore of Santiago harbor is so small that every inch of the surface could be covered with shot and shell from the Spanish forts. Both Hobson and Dewey knew that the chances were overwhelmingly against them, that if they were killed the heroism of their actions might not have been diminished by their fate, but the muse of history has queer freaks, and it is quite possible that both young Dewey and young Hobson might have been known as rash young fellows who went to what they knew to be certain death and found what they were looking for. There was one chance in a thousand. They took the solitary chance, escaped and became heroes. The rolls of the navy are filled with the names of young men who are possible Hobsons. Every torpedo boat is commanded by a possible De-

catur, in a naval action where torpedo boats are engaged, the risks are all against these tiny craft, but the young officers are willing to take the chance for the sake of the glory.

Hobson had a notable example before him in a naval officer about his own age, who achieved one of the most notable victories in the history of the American navy. Oliver Hazard Perry was only a lieutenant when he won the glorious victory known in our history as the battle of Lake Erie. The victory was gained almost by stealth. Perry took advantage of the temporary absence of his senior officer, and also of the British squadron which had been watching the American flotilla, to get his ships out of the port of Erie. Lifting the largest over the bar by means of appliances specially contrived for the purpose, without waiting for orders, he at once attacked and forced the British squadron to an engagement under disadvantageous circumstances, and made his reputation. It was a piece of reckless daring on the part of the youthful officer which, had it failed, would have cost him his life, but the young officers are willing to take the chance for the sake of the glory.

The young Lieutenant studying the harbor of Santiago from the deck of the battle ship lying off the entrance recalls another piece of daring which was done by a man whose reputation Hobson can never hope to rival. The revolutionists had laid before the trenches, taking observations from every conceivable point of view. For hours at a time he would lie behind a breastwork with his spyglass fixed upon the beleaguered town, examining it and its environment with an attention that was not at the time believed to be more than that of any other interested observer, but which proved to be of superior importance to the besiegers. Suddenly, one day when affairs looked less propitious than usual, the council of officers was astonished at the appearance of the little dark lieutenant, with a map of the city and its environs. Pointing to a promontory which jutted out from the coast into the sea, he pointed to a point of land, the harbor, the Lieutenant said: "Gentlemen, there is a Toulon—that is, if that point were taken the city would be at the mercy of the besiegers. The council of war perceived the wisdom of the plan suggested. The promontory was attacked, occupied, fortified and Toulon surrendered.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Girl Couldn't Smoke, Tried Suicide.
Maggie Becker, twenty-two years old, could not withstand her deprivation from smoking opium. Yesterday morning she attempted suicide by hanging herself with a towel in the House of the Good Shepherd. Folksman McBlain was called, and after she was revived made her a prisoner in the House of the Good Shepherd and Twenty-sixth street station house.

Remember—No "Want" advertiser can afford to miss having his ad. in next Sunday's Journal—It does not matter whether you want to sell, buy, rent, get help or work—the results from the Journal will make you happy Monday. Don't waste time and money experimenting.